

प्रोफे. (डा.) प्रदीप कुमार जोशी
अध्यक्ष
Prof. (Dr.) Pradeep Kumar Joshi
CHAIRMAN



संघ लोक सेवा आयोग
धौलपुर हाउस, शाहजहाँ रोड,
नई दिल्ली-110069
UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Dholpur House, Shahjahan Road,
New Delhi-110069
Tel. : (91-11) 23381688
Fax : (91-11) 23381145

MESSAGE

Dated: 1st October 2021

Dear friends,

On this auspicious occasion of celebrating 95th Foundation day of the Union Public Service Commission, I convey my heartiest congratulations and warm greetings to the Hon'ble colleague Members, officers and staff of the Commission. I would also like to felicitate former Hon'ble Chairmen and Members who have richly contributed in upholding the strength, integrity and for maintaining high standards of probity of the Commission. We are all proud to bear witness to this historic day and to be associated with an institution which was established on 1st October, 1926.

2. As per the constitutional mandate, the Union Public Service Commission has been entrusted for conducting fair and transparent recruitment to the premier administrative positions in the country. Besides this, the Commission is also efficiently discharging its advisory duties. This undoubtedly becomes possible with the wisdom, able guidance, vast professional & academic knowledge and experience of Hon'ble Members of the Commission. The dedicated and sincere efforts of the officers and staff of the Commission also need to be appreciated as they have skillfully implemented the decisions of the Commission on all occasions.

3. The recent pandemic situation created health havoc in the country and, to my dismay, some of our officers/ staff and their near and dear ones unfortunately succumbed to COVID. I express my deepest condolence towards the families of those who have lost their lives during covid pandemic. The Commission is always proactive in addressing the welfare measures of employees. During the COVID time, a Covid testing camp for two days was organized in the month of October, 2020 and later vaccination camps were also organized in coordination with the civic authorities in the month of June, 2021 and September, 2021.

4. The Commission stood up to the challenges posed by the severe pandemic situation, especially during the months of April and May, 2021. By rescheduling various activities of conducting Examinations, Recruitment tests, holding DPC/ SCM etc., it completed all the mandated constitutional obligations. In doing so, the first priority was to ensure the safety and convenience of the candidates. Even during the strict lockdown phase, the Commission managed to successfully communicate with the candidates on regular intervals to ease out their anxieties and fear of the unknown.

5. Through continuous planning, monitoring and coordination with various authorities, the Commission could start holding its Examinations and Interviews. This required several novel arrangements such as - making provision for air-fare reimbursement for Interviewees; development of Standard Operating Procedures for examinees and examination-functionaries, consistent with COVID protocols and ensuring that these are strictly followed; close and effective coordination with the Central and State Government authorities so that candidates do not face difficulties in reaching the Examination Venues; making adequate provision for budgetary

support to the Venue Supervisors so that they could effectively sanitize their venues and supply safety-kits to the examination-functionaries and candidates as per requirements. The arrangement made by the Commission had been found quite effective as testified by the fact that Examinations/Interviews have been conducted during the period smoothly.

6. With these meticulous efforts, the Commission is at an advanced stage of completing the examination process of all the deferred Examinations of the year 2020. Besides, most of the Examinations of the year 2021 have reached in their next stages. Further, the Commission's Annual Programme of Examinations for the year 2022 has also been finalized and placed in public domain for the benefits of the aspirants.

7. During the period starting from 1st April, 2020, the Commission has successfully completed various Examinations and Recruitment tests. For facilitating the candidates, the Commission has opened new Centres for Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination at Leh in Ladakh, Nasik in Maharashtra, Surat in Gujarat and Almora & Srinagar in Uttrakhand. Accordingly, the total number of Centres for Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination has now become 77. The number of Centres for National Defence Commission and Combined Defence Services Examinations has also been increased from 41 to 77. During the year the Commission gave opportunity to the candidates of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2021 to change their Centres for taking examination which has been availed by about 28000 candidates.

In addition to above, as a policy decision, short-listing criteria for economically weaker sections (EWS) has been decided by the Commission. Further, a separate category of Gender 'Transgender'

has been incorporated in the online recruitment application form. This year also, as entrusted by the Union Government, the Commission is taking up Lateral Recruitment to the post of Joint Secretaries, Directors and Deputy Secretaries.

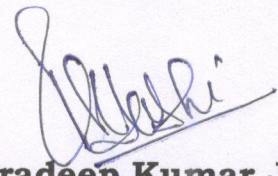
8. Our Foundation Day is followed by "**Gandhi Jayanti**" which is also celebrated with great enthusiasm and zeal. I am confident that all of us would pledge to imbibe the principles of our beloved Father of Nation, Mahatma Gandhi on non-violence, truth, integrity, hard work and cleanliness. These virtues not only enable us to maintain a healthy and friendly office environment but also to ensure upholding our valuable culture and traditions thereby paving the way for a progressive nation.

9. The Commission is always aware of the expectations of the citizens/ candidates and does not leave any stone unturned in meeting the requirement of its aspirants. It is our continuous endeavour to make the system more efficient, effective and easy in tune with the changing time.

10. I convey my heart felt congratulations and best wishes to all of you on this 95th Foundation Day of the Commission and acknowledge the persistent and invaluable contribution made by the officers and staff. I am absolutely sure that with your consistent commitment, support and contribution, the Commission will be able to fulfill all its constitutional obligations.

I, once again extend my warmest greetings to one and all on this auspicious occasion.

"Jai Hind"



Prof. (Dr.) Pradeep Kumar Joshi
Chairman, UPSC